

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132824

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:CSCE, NATO

SUBJECT: FURTHER WORK ON CSCE BELGRADE PREPARATIONS

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

1. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON DEVELOP-
MENT OF WORK PROGRAM FOR BELGRADE MEETINGS AND ON VARIOUS
PAPERS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED IN BRUSSELS DURING THE
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PAST FEW DAYS.

2. DEPARTMENT'S FIRST PRIORITY IN CSCE PREPARATIONS CON-
TINUES TO BE REACHING AGREEMENT ON PAPERS NEEDED MOST
IMMEDIATELY FOR ONGOING DISCUSSIONS IN BELGRADE. FOR THIS
REASON WE BELIEVE MOST ATTENTION SHOULD CONTINUE TO FOCUS
ON DRAFT DECISION PAPER FOR TABLING EARLY-ON AT BELGRADE

PREPARATORY MEETING. WE BELIEVE NEXT PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PAPER ON THEMES, WHICH WILL ESTABLISH CONTEXT FOR ALLIED APPROACH AT MAIN BELGRADE MEETING. ANOTHER IMPORTANT TASK WILL BE TO BOIL DOWN PRESENT LIST OF NEW PROPOSALS TO MANAGEABLE NUMBER WHICH WE CAN REALISTICALLY EXPECT TO INTRODUCE AT BELGRADE.

3. COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC PAPERS AND ISSUES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. DRAFT OF QTE DECISION SHEET: UNQTE. GUIDANCE TRANSMITTED IN STATE 130423.

B. THEMES: DEPARTMENT IS CONTINUING STUDY OF UK PAPER AND WILL HAVE DETAILED COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS FOR DRAFT APPRAISAL STATEMENTS MENTIONED IN STATE 126756 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE THOUGHT BEHIND THIS PROPOSAL IS OUR FEELING THAT THERE WILL BE A GAP IN NATO PLANNING IF WE DO NOT ENTER THE BELGRADE DISCUSSIONS WITH AN UNDERSTANDING OF HOW WE WISH TO SEE RESULTS OF THE MEETING REFLECTED IN THE FINAL DOCUMENT. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES ALLIES SHOULD WORK OUT DRAFT APPRAISALS IN EACH OF THE MAJOR SUBJECT AREAS WHICH WOULD SERVE AS A GUIDE TO WESTERN NEGOTIATORS IN BELGRADE. USE OF THE DRAFTS WOULD DEPEND ON THE NEGOTIATING SITUATION; ALL OR PARTS OF THE TEXTS COULD BE TABLED IN COMMITTEE SESSIONS, OR THEY COULD BE USED ONLY AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION. THE BEST WAY OF INCLUDING THE APPRAISAL STATEMENTS IN NATO PLANNING WOULD, IN OUR VIEW, BE TO INCLUDE THEM IN THE PAPER ON THEMES. LISTING OF THEMES FOR EACH SECTION COULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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CLUDE WITH AN APPROPRIATE DRAFT APPRAISAL STATEMENT.

C. NEW PROPOSALS: OVERALL GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN STATE 84818 REMAINS VALID. DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT MAIN TASK AT THE MOMENT SHOULD BE TO EVALUATE EXISTING NEW PROPOSALS AND BOIL DOWN THE LIST TO A LIMITED NUMBER. IN OUR VIEW IT IS IMPORTANT TO SET PRIORITIES FOR NEGOTIATORS IN BELGRADE. ALTHOUGH UK PAPER PROVIDES GOOD TREATMENT OF PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE, IT DOES NOT SHORTEN THE LIST OF PROPOSALS AND DOES NOT PROVIDE PRIORITIES. DEPARTMENT REALIZES THAT FINAL DECISIONS ON NEW PROPOSALS WILL BE INFLUENCED BY NEGOTIATING SITUATION IN BELGRADE. HOWEVER, WE FEEL STRONGLY THAT AN EFFORT MUST BE MADE BEFOREHAND TO IDENTIFY THOSE PROPOSALS WHICH SERVE WESTERN OBJECTIVES AND WHICH HAVE A CHANCE OF BEING ACCEPTED WITHOUT DISTRACTING ATTENTION FROM A MEANINGFUL REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION. IF THIS IS NOT DONE, THE MAIN CONFERENCE COULD BE PROLONGED CONSIDERABLY AND WESTERN NEGOTIATORS

WILL BE FORCED TO CHOOSE ON THE SPOT FROM A LONG LIST OF IDEAS FOR WHICH NO PRIORITIES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED. THEREFORE, BEFORE MOVING TO THE TEXTUAL APPROACH WHICH THE UK HAS ADOPTED, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO AGREE ON A LIST OF TWO OR THREE PROPOSALS IN EACH BASKET WHICH WOULD BE REFINED FOR PRESENTATION AT BELGRADE.

D. ADDITIONAL PAPERS ON BASKET III: DEPARTMENT'S MAIN CONCERN IS TO ENSURE THAT ALL ASPECTS OF PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE MEETING ARE COVERED. WE REMAIN FLEXIBLE AS

TO HOW THIS WORK SHOULD BE ORGANIZED. IN OUR VIEW, PRIMARY EMPHASIS AT THE MOMENT SHOULD BE ON PREPARATION OF THEMES, AND WE WILL WISH TO AVOID DUPLICATION AND OVERLAPPING IN POLADS' WORK. HOWEVER, AS THE ALLIES ARE AWARE, THE US WILL PRODUCE FOR INTERNAL USE A SERIES OF BACKGROUND PAPERS ON ALL SECTIONS OF THE FINAL CONFIDENTIAL

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ACT. THE BASKET III SUBJECTS MENTIONED IN USNATO 4802 WILL BE COVERED IN THIS EXERCISE. THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO A NATO EXERCISE IN THIS AREA. IF OTHER ALLIES BELIEVE THE EFFORT WOULD BE OF VALUE, WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE IDEA.

E. UK PAPER ON CSCE PROCESS AFTER BELGRADE: DEPARTMENT IS STUDYING UK PAPER MENTIONED IN USNATO 4231. WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC COMMENTS AT PRESENT.

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